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REPORT

OF THE

JOINT COMMITTEE

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

RELATIVE TO THE

TERRITORIAL UNIVERSITY.

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REPORT

OF THE

JOINT INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

To the Honorable President of the Council:

Your Committee of Investigation of the University of the Territory of Washington beg leave to report:

1st. That your Committee visited the said University and inspected the buildings, and furniture and library, and report that said buildings are in good repair, except a leakage in the roof of the University building. The furniture appears be of sufficient quantity for present purposes. The library is very small and of little value; but on the account of the low state of the funds of the University and the high price of books at present, we are of opinion the interest of the University would not be advanced by a further expenditure for books.

2d. Your Committee further report that they have, as far as possible in their limited time, investigated the financial condition of said University, and find that the books of the Commissioners are not kept in a satisfactory manner, and do not specifically set forth the dates of reception, the kinds of money, and the names of the persons from whom money has been received; neither do the said books show with sufficient perspicuity the items of expenditure of moneys received by the said Commissioners.

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Your Committee find that there has been a committee of investigation appointed to investigate the condition of the University, which reported, as is found in statutes of page , and also the said Commissioners have rendered an account to the Regents of the University; but your Committee recommend, that upon the discharge of the Commissioners, as hereinafter recommended, that the Regents appoint a good and sufficient accountant, with full power to state the accounts concerning said Commissioners, in which he shall show the lands sold by the University, the dates and kind of money in which payment was made, and the party purchasing; also, the amount of lands still owned by the University, and a full account of moneys paid out, with each particular item for which money has been expended, and the kind, whether coin or currency, and the date of payments; also, an account of the money loaned, specifying the amounts, the denomination of money so loaned, and the state of the security. That said referee further investigate the accounts of the former Treasurer, and state his accounts in the same manner as in case of Commissioners, and report the amount and kind of money in the treasury. The said referee shall, whenever he is dissatisfied or doubtful in regard to the correctness or equities of a claim, shall issue subpœnas for witness and papers, and shall have the full power to compel their attendance and production that a referee of the district court now has.

Your Committee recommend that said referee state also the accounts of the Regents with the Commissioners aforesaid, showing the amounts paid by them for instruction and expense; and that the referee's compensation for his services be for such reasonable term as the Board of Regents may allow. Your Committee further recommend, that the Regents of the University be authorized by law to pay all present arreages out of the principal and interest in the treasury, but that the said Regents shall be prohibited from, in any manner, drawing from or using the principal of the funds of said University in any other manner. Your Committee further recommend that all moneys belonging to the University be kept exclusively by the Treasurer, and that no part of the fund shall be paid out of said treasury, except by order of the Board of Regents, and that the Board of

Regents, as well as Treasurer, shall keep an account of such orders in their official books of account.

Your Committee would recommend that the Board of Commissioners be abolished, and that all the said Commissioners' powers be conferred to the Board of Regents, as provided by the passage of an act for that purpose; also, that said Board of Commissioners turn over to the Board of Regents all their official books and papers.

Your Committee find that the funds on hand will not warrant so great an outlay as has heretofore been made, and would recommend that the Regents, for teachers, do not pay over five hundred dollars coin per annum, nor other expenses further than what is necessary for fuel and keeping said buildings in repair.

Your Committee find the school not in a prosperous condition, and are of opinion that the management by the President of the University has not been the most judicious, and recommend that the board of Regents take such steps in relation to teachers as will promote the best interests of the school.

Your Committee recommend that the Regents take immediate steps to recover debts due the University, and have the same deposited in the treasury, and further recommend that no loan shall be made from the funds in coin, but that the coin belonging to the University be converted by the Treasurer into legal tender currency at its current rates, and that the same shall be loaned in currency. It is further recommended by your Committee, that the principal and interest coming into the treasury shall be immediately loaned at not less than at the rate of eighteen per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually, and for as much more as is practicable, and that the security be on landed estate.

And your Committee would further recommend that in each obligation to the University, that the party borrowing money shall expressly agree that in case suit has to be brought to recover the same, that he will pay at least ten per cent. additional damage.

Accompanying you will find a statement of lands sold and still to credit of the University, also amount of funds on hand:

Amount received by University Commissioners from sale of 42,809 acres of land....	$ 64,214
Amount of land belonging to University remaining unsold, 4271 acres.	
Amount of cash in hands of Treasurer as per report December 20, 1864.....	1,431 65
Amount of bonds and promissory notes.....	12,271 52
Amount interest due on same.....	1,212 15
	$14,915 32

Your Committee therefore recommend the passage of the act herewith reported, and ask to be discharged.

J. J. H. VAN BOKKELEN,
Chairman of Joint Committee.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE INTERESTS OF THE TERRITORIAL UNIVERSITY.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Washington,* That all laws or parts of laws heretofore enacted giving and granting power and authority over the interests or funds of the Territorial University to a board of commissioners, be and the same are hereby repealed, and the said board of commissioners are hereby required forthwith to turn over to the President of the board of Regents all books, records, papers and property of every description in their or either of their possession, and to take his receipt for the same.

SEC. 2. Hereafter all and singular the power and authority that has heretofore been vested in and has been exercised by the board of commissioners, shall vest in and of right may be exercised by the board of Regents.

SEC. 3. The board of Regents are hereby authorized and required to pay all liabilities now outstanding against the University out of any funds in the treasury; but they are hereby prohibited from incurring any liabilities hereafter that cannot

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be liquidated and paid out of interest money arising from a loan of the principal fund.

SEC. 4. The board of Regents may, if they deem it necessary, appoint some person or persons to attend to any business that the interest of the University in their opinion may require, and such person or persons so appointed are hereby empowered to administer oaths, and are hereby clothed with power and authority to bring any books, records and persons before him or them that may be deemed necessary, and for enforcement of such right, may deal summarily as for contempt, with any person who shall refuse to comply with a demand made in accordance with the provisions hereof, and may have and exercise such further power and authority as the district court now has to enforce its orders.

SEC. 5. The board of Regents may make such an allowance to any person or persons who shall perform services as provided in the preceding section, as they may deem just and reasonable, which allowance shall be paid from the interest of the University fund.

SEC. 6. The board of Regents are hereby authorized to deduct from amount due by T. M. Chambers, as appears of record, to the University fund, the sum of three hundred and seventy-five dollars and twenty-one cents, that amount ($375 21) being shown by the record more than is actually due from Mr. Chambers to the fund.

SEC. 7. Any person or persons who, under the provisions of the fourth section of this act, shall perform any service, shall make a full and complete report of his or their doings to the secretary of the board of Regents immediately upon completing the same, and a copy of such report, together with the action of the board of Regents upon such report, shall be made and forwarded to the next annual session of the Legislative Assembly of Washington Territory.

SEC. 8. This act to take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

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